



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 - 2733

May 31, 2016

Office of the Regional Administrator

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cassidy:

Thank you for your letter dated May 2, 2016, to Ms. Laura Vaught of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding concerns from your constituent (b) (6) about air emissions by Wood Resources, LLC in Harahan, Louisiana. Your letter was forwarded to me, as Louisiana falls under my jurisdiction.

My staff responded directly to (b) (6). I have enclosed a copy of that response. If you have any questions, please call me at (214) 665-2100, or your staff may contact Mr. Cary Martindale, Congressional Liaison, at (214) 665-8147.

Sincerely,


Ron Curry
Regional Administrator

Enclosure



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DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 - 2733

May 20, 2016

(b) (6)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the upper left portion of the page, obscuring several lines of text. The redaction is labeled with the code "(b) (6)" in red text at the top left corner of the box.

Thank you for your letter, dated April 29, 2016, to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Ron Curry, Region 6 Regional Administrator, has asked me to respond as your questions about particulate matter emissions from a Wood Resources facility located in your community of Harahan, Louisiana, since it is within the jurisdiction of EPA Region 6.

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) is the primary implementing agency for air quality issues in the State of Louisiana, and has the authority to implement most Federal air quality regulations in lieu of the EPA. LDEQ has air quality regulations and programs which go beyond Federal requirements, including compliance investigation and citizen complaint response capabilities through their regional offices.

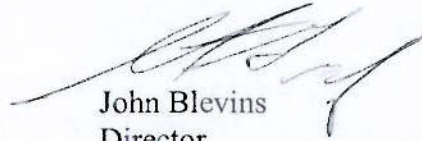
In April 2016, LDEQ responded to citizen complaints regarding the Wood Resources facility. Based on their inspection results, LDEQ initiated appropriate compliance actions. EPA supports LDEQ's efforts, and will work with them to evaluate new information as it is received.

LDEQ's Southeast Regional Office serves the Harahan area and can be reached by phone at (504) 736-7701 or by email at sroadmin@la.gov. Citizen environmental complaints may also be submitted online through the LDEQ website at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/apps/forms/irf/forms/>. LDEQ handles complaints as they are recorded, and takes appropriate action. My staff has been in contact with Mr. Mike Algero, manager of the LDEQ Southeast Regional Office. Mr. Algero can be reached at (504) 736-7701 or by email at mike.algero@la.gov.

Federally-required air monitoring stations are used to determine the general air quality in an area and not to determine the compliance status of a specific facility, such as Wood Resources. Some states, such as Louisiana, can voluntarily monitor for and address air quality issues in communities under state authority. As a voluntary effort, states have flexibility to conduct this monitoring and to choose where they locate their monitoring stations.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Toni Allen, of my staff, at (214) 665-7271, or by email at allen.toni@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



John Blevins
Director
Compliance Assurance and
Enforcement Division

cc: Ms. Celena Cage, Administrator
Enforcement Division
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

Mr. Mike Algero, Manager
Southeast Regional Office
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality